Consumption and Demand of LPG

956. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the present rate of consumption/demand in million tonnes of LPG in the country during the last three years and likely demand during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, year-wise;

(b) what is the number of LPG connections likely to be released to the various consumers during the current fiscal year and by when Government plant to liquidate wait lists in all the metros;

(c) whether any National Seminar on LPG saftely was recently organised by the Loss Prevention Association of India in Delhi; and

(d) if so, what are its main recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The LPG sales/demand in the country during the last three years and demand as estimated by the PSU Oil Companies during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, year-wise is given as under:

YEAR	SALES/DEMAND (IN MMT)		
	PSU*	PMS**	TOTAL
1996-97 (ACT)	4.18	0.08	4.26
1997-98 (ACT)	4.58	0.22	4.80
1998-99 (ACT)	5.04	0.31	5.35
1999-2000 (EST)	5.86	0.40	6.26
2000-01 (EST)	6.70	0.51	7.21
2001-02 (EST)	7.23	0.61	7.84

* PSU stands for Public Sector Undertaking.
** PMS stands for Parallel Marketing Scheme.

(b) Government has approved release of 70 lakhs new LPG connection during 1999-2000. Government has also given direction to Oil Companies to liquidate the waiting list in the Metros of Chennai, Mumbai and Calcutta. More LPG connections are planned to be released in near future and it is expected to clear the entire waiting

list across the country by the year 2001-2002. As regard to Metro of Delhi, there is no pending LPG waiting list.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A national seminar on LPG safety was organised by Loss Prevention Association of India Limited in Association with PHD chamber of commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 16.11.1999.

Private Sector Participation in LPG Distribution

†957. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of LPG distribution companies in private sector in the country and since when these companies are working in this sector;

(b) whether Government have arranged any system to ensure the quality of LPG; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the defference between the prices of LPG sold by the companies of public sector and the LPG sold by the companies of private sector; and

(d) whether some new coampanies will be included in this sector in the near future, if so, the names of those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The name of the companies in private sector which imported LPG under parallel marketing scheme is given in Statement.

(b) As per the amended LPG (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 1993, LPG should conform to Indian Standard Specification No. IS 4576. Various Governments functionaries have been empowered to conduct checks to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Control Order including the quality of LPG.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.